



3643 #3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of

Applicants : Tate et al.  
Serial No. : 09/866,565  
Filed : May 25, 2001  
Title : MEAT PROCESSING SCHEME  
Docket: : SPT 0009 PA  
Art Unit : 3643

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James E. Beyer

Reg. No. 39,564

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97, AND 1.98

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications, and other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material, as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b), to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56(a). While the information referred to in this Information Disclosure Statement may be material pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56(b), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not intended to, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97(h), constitute an admission that any patent, publication, or other information referred to is, or is considered to be, material to the patentability of this invention. Further, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97(g), the filing of this Statement should not be construed as a statement that a search has been made or that no other material information exists.

A listing of all items of information cited is attached on PTO/SB/08A, a substitute for form 1449A/PTO. Copies of the items are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

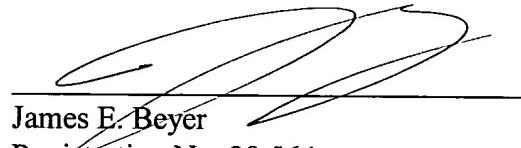
Serial No. 09/866,565  
Docket No. SPT 0009 PA

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR §1.97(b) because it is filed within three months of the filing date of a national application or within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR §1.491 in an international application.

Respectfully submitted,

KILLWORTH, GOTTMAN, HAGAN  
& SCHAEFF, L.L.P.

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| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |   |    |   | <b>Application Number</b>     | 09/866,560      |
|  |   |    |   | <b>Filing Date</b>            | May 25, 2001    |
|  |   |    |   | <b>First Named Inventor</b>   | Stanley E. Tate |
|  |   |    |   | <b>Group Art Unit</b>         | 3643            |
|  |   |    |   | <b>Examiner Name</b>          |                 |
| Sheet  | 1 | of | 2 | <b>Attorney Docket Number</b> | SPT 0009 PA     |



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| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |                      |   |   |  |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---|---|--|
| Examiner Initials'    | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | U.S. Patent Document | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
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| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
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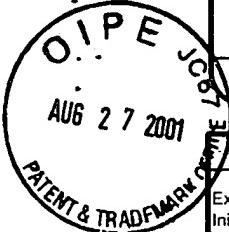
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|  |   |    |   | <b>Examiner Name</b>          |                 |
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FIG. 14

|                       |  |                    |  |
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